

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 CEQ-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 EB-08  
COME-00 HEW-06 AID-05 SS-15 A-01 ABF-01 L-03  
EPAE-00 SP-02 MCT-01 SNM-05 DEAE-00 DODE-00 NRC-07  
NSC-05 PER-05 /140 W

-----008814 091812Z /72

P 091514Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6806

UNCLAS MANAGUA 2646

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, TGEN, NU

SUBJECT: SCIENCE ATTACHE PROGRAM AND GLOBAL ISSUES

REF: STATE 118666

1. THIS EMBASSY IS ADEQUATELY STAFFED TO HANDLE FORESEEABLE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES IN NICARAGUA. THERE ARE VERY FEW, IF ANY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GLOBAL ISSUES WHICH WILL REQUIRE PRIORITY ATTENTION BECAUSE OF THEIR INCREASING IMPORTANCE TO U.S. RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA DURING THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS. THOSE FEW ISSUES WHICH MIGHT PROMPT SOME ATTENTION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:  
(A) ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES. NICARAGUA IS SEEKING TO EXPLOIT ITS GEOTHERMAL ENERGY RESOURCES AND INTEREST IN INCREASING IN DEVELOPING SOLAR ENERGY AND ENERGY GENERATED FROM THE BURNING OF BAGASSE AND CANA BRAVA (A TYPE OF BAMBOO) AS WELL.  
(B) SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES ARE BECOMING MORE IMPORTANT AS AREAS OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL NICARAGUA EXPERIENCE SEVERE DROUGHT PROBLEMS.  
(C) THE SPREAD OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES HAS BECOME A SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEM AS DDT AND OTHER IMPURITIES HAVE BEEN FOUND IN HARMFUL QUANTITIES IN DIARY PRODUCTS AND MEAT. MEAT IS AN IMPORTANT EXPORT COMMODITY AND A FEW SHIPMENTS TO THE U.S. HAVE FAILED, OR HAVE COME CLOSE TO FAILING, TO MEET U.S. SANITATION STANDARDS OWING TO TRACES  
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OF CHEMICAL IMPURITIES.

(D) NICARAGUA IS INTERESTED IN IMPROVING ITS FOOD TECHNOLOGY BOTH IN TERMS OF DEVELOPING NEW CROPS AND IN INCREASING YIELDS. IT ALSO WANTS TO EXPAND ITS RATHER SMALL FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT WHATEVER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INPUTS THE EMBASSY MIGHT NEED IN DEALING WITH THE ABOVE AND OTHER ISSUES OF

THIS TYPE CAN BE BEST MET BY PERIODIC VISITS BY AMERICAN SPECIAL-  
ISTS IN THE RELEVANT FIELDS. STILL, SHORT-TERM TRAINING OR SPECIAL-  
IZED BRIEFINGS FOR GENERALIST OFFICERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE  
ASSIGNED TO THE ECONOMICCOMMERCIAL SECTION, COULD BE MOST HELPFUL  
IN ENABLING THE EMBASSY TO IDENTIFY AND REPORT ON THE SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS THAT MAY REQUIRE VISITS BY SPECIALISTS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SCIENCE ATTACHES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MANAGU02646  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 118666  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014